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2. Response from the Officials to the Presentation by Strathcona Home and School Association re the Consultation Process for New Blended Classes 2

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Report of the Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils Committee 2

MINUTES OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE
1997 01 09

Present: Trustees Stewart (Chairman), Bishop, Johnstone, Mulholland, Wall, Cunningham.

Not Present: Trustee Patenaude

Also Present: Trustees Desmarais, Hicks, Hill, Johnston, Korz, Lowe, MacDonald, Orban, Paquin and Rogers.

Officials
Present: D. Goodridge (Director of Education and Secretary)
E. Bond (Superintendent of Program)
P. Gillie (Superintendent - Administrative and Operational Services)
M. Quinn (Superintendent of Schools)
R. Lavoie (Superintendent of Schools - French As A First Language)
F. Cooke (Assistant Superintendent of Program)
M. Matier (Assistant Superintendent of Schools)
S. Thompson (Assistant Superintendent of Schools)

Mr. Stewart called the meeting to order, noting regrets for not attending were received from Trustees Patenaude and Gage.

Moved by Mr. Mulholland: That the minutes of the regular meeting of 1996 11 07 be approved as presented. **CARRIED**

Moved by Mrs. Johnstone: That New Business: 1. Presentation by Jim Enos re Sex-Education Materials be dealt with as the first item of business. **CARRIED**

ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation by Jim Enos re Sex-Education Materials

Mr. Enos presented his report, referring to his letter to D. Goodridge dated 1996 11 25. Mr. Enos submitted further support material for his presentation outlining the recommendations he would like to see the Committee adopt, and a petition to the Chairman.

Following his presentation, members received clarification on a number of points from Mr. Enos.

Ms. C. Yachetti, a mother, former physical education/health teacher and member of a community group addressed the committee briefly with supporting concerns about the use of the two videos.

When Mr. Stewart thanked the presenters, it was moved by Mrs. Johnstone: That the presentation by Jim Enos be dealt with tonight. **LOST.**

Following further discussion by trustees, it was moved by Mr. Mulholland: That the presentation by Mr. Jim Enos relative to Sex-Education Materials be referred to the Officials for a report back to the February meeting of the Program Committee and that, during this

time, the two videos -- Headful of Questions and Choices -- in the "Growing Up Series" not be used in the schools. **CARRIED**

Mr. Enos confirmed that, while this is a three-video series, his concerns lie only with the first two videos as named in his brief.

It was agreed that a 'PROF' would be sent to the system informing schools of the direction not to use the first two videos in the series during this time.

The Chairman ruled Mrs. Bishop's concern about decisions reached in a tie-vote situation by the Central Review Committee for the Selection of Learning Resources out of order at this time.

GENERAL

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES:

Progress Report on the Review of Special Education Programs

Dr. Marie Bountrogianni, Chief Psychologist, presented the report.

Moved by Mr. Mulholland: That the Progress Report on the Review of Special Education Programs be received for information and the following recommendation approved:

(a) That a Report on the Factors which Mediate Success for Exceptional Students be brought back to the Program Committee in January 1998.

Dr. Bountrogianni responded to questions and provided clarification on information contained in the report.

The motion was put to a vote and was **CARRIED.**

Response from the Officials to the Presentation by Strathcona Home and School Association re the Consultation Process for New Blended Classes

Mr. Thompson presented the report.

Moved by Mr. Mulholland: That the Report re Blended Classes at Strathcona School be received for information and that the Assistant Superintendent of Schools continue to implement the strategies as presented in the report. **CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS:

Report of the Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils Committee

Moved by Canon Rogers: That the following Report of the Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils Committee be approved:

1. That the SALEP Program be re-located to Crestwood School for the balance of the school year and that this be reviewed by June 1997. **CARRIED**

The meeting then adjourned.

Read and confirmed,

dm

Chairman

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MINUTES OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE
1997 02 06

Present: Trustees Stewart (Chairman), Bishop, Johnstone, Mulholland, Patenaude, Wall and Cunningham

Also Present: Trustees Darby, Desmarais, Gage, Hicks, Hill, Johnston, Korz, Lowe, MacDonald, Orban and Rogers.

Officials
Present: F. Cooke (Assistant Superintendent of Program and Secretary Pro Tem)
E. Bond (Superintendent of Program)
P. Gillie (Superintendent - Administrative and Operational Services)
R. Lavoie (Superintendent of Schools - French As A First Language)
S. Thompson (Assistant Superintendent of Schools)

Mr. Stewart called the meeting to order, noting regrets for not attending were received from Trustees Paquin and M. Matier (Interim Director of Education and Secretary).

Moved by Mr. Mulholland: That Mr. Cooke be appointed Secretary Pro Tem. **CARRIED**

Moved by Canon Rogers: That the minutes of the regular meetings of 1996 12 05 and 1997 01 09 be approved. **CARRIED**

Moved by Mr. Korz: That New Business: 1. Presentation by Planned Parenthood Association re Sex Education (Elementary/Secondary) be dealt with as the first item of business. **CARRIED**

ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation by Planned Parenthood Association re Sex Education

Fran Agnew, Executive Director, and Monica Bennett, Community Educator presented their report relating to the 'The Growing Up Series' videos.

Following their presentation, members received clarification on a number of points from the presenters:

- the material presented in the video was based on input from 9 year olds
- acknowledging there is a small reference to abstinence, the focus of the video is on what happens to your body as you mature
- diversity in society makes it difficult to address family values per se; the video presents, however, a message of 'making a life together'
- Planned Parenthood would be willing to conduct workshops for parents
- the fact that the videos make no reference to sexually transmitted diseases was noted and questioned

Mr. Stewart thanked the presenters and noted that this item will be referred to officials for a report as per Board policy.

GENERAL

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Common Curriculum - Grades 1-9: Provincial and Board Reviews and Administration of other Standardized Tests

Miss Bond provided an overview and then called on Mr. R. Chapman, Project Team Leader - Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting, and Mr. K. Bain, Principal, G. L. Armstrong School, who demonstrated the Outcome Based Report Card software program that has been developed for teacher use.

Following the demonstration, members received clarification on a number of points relating to the Outcome Based report card software program and a sample of the report card was distributed to members.

During discussions, it was noted that:

- this report card has been in the process of development for 3 years
- the Ministry of Education and Training is developing a report card and it is expected that the Board's report card will be adaptable to their version
- the Board's report card addresses the outcomes level; the Ministry's does not
- while there are inconsistencies across the system relative to the implementation of the common curriculum, the Officials indicated that moving to such a direction is a priority in the schools
- the sample report card showed discrepancies between the ratings and the comments
- noting that the report card before the Committee was a 'sample' and one that had not been fine-tuned for these kinds of discrepancies, the officials felt that the Principal's signature on each report card will provide the appropriate checks and balances against such occurrences
- general and generic information from the report cards could be shared with the School Councils (names of students removed)
- while the intent is to have this report card used system wide in the future, it was acknowledged that, by Board direction, each school is currently allowed to select their own reporting system

Moved by Ms. Orban: That the Status Report on the Implementation of the "Common Curriculum - Grades 1-9" be received for information. **CARRIED**

Correspondence from the Ministry of Education and Training re the Evaluation Report: Model Program for Expelled Students [referred at the 1996 09 19 Board]

Moved by Mrs. Bishop: That the correspondence be referred to the Safe Schools Committee. **CARRIED**

ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Response from the Officials to the Presentation by Jim Enos re Sex-Education Materials [to be deferred to the March, 1997 meeting]

Moved by Mr. Mulholland: That the Response from the Officials to the Presentation by Jim Enos re Sex-Education Materials be deferred to the March, 1997 Program Committee meeting. **CARRIED**

Report re Reduction in Staff FTE for Non-mandated Programs: Design and Technology, Family Studies, Guidance, Library

Moved by Mr. Mulholland: That the Report re Reduction in staff FTE for non-mandated programs: Design and Technology, Family Studies, Guidance, Library be received for information.

Mr. Thompson presented the report.

Mr. Thompson responded to questions and provided clarification on information contained in the report.

During discussions, it was noted that:

- this very factual report reflects how things are operating in the system and shows that the Board is not addressing the needs of the middle school student
- the officials clarified that the variety in program offerings through the system was based in part on the staff available in each school; decisions were made at the school level on how to best meet the learning outcomes within existing resources
- the officials concurred that the Board is not delivering the non-mandated programs as they used to be
- when concern that the libraries are not being utilized to the fullest extent, the officials noted that in many schools the classroom teacher takes the class to the library rather than students going in small groups
- program evaluations are a part of each school plan
- the creative staffing employed by many principals to address the curriculum needs of their schools was acknowledged and appreciated

The motion was put to a vote and was **CARRIED.**

The meeting then adjourned.

Read and confirmed

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CHAIRMAN

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BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

1. "Growing-Up" Video Series and Other Issues - Report from Senior Officials 1

MINUTES OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE
1997 03 06

Present: Trustees Stewart (Chairman), Bishop, Johnstone, Wall and Cunningham

Not Present: Trustees Mulholland and Patenaude

Also Present: Trustees Darby, Johnston, MacDonald, Orban and Rogers

Officials Present:
M. Matier (Interim Director of Education and Secretary)
E. Bond (Superintendent of Program)
P. Gillie (Superintendent - Administrative and Operational Services)
F. Cooke (Interim Superintendent of Schools)

Mr. Stewart called the meeting to order, noting regrets for not attending were received from Trustees Hicks, Hill, Korz, Lowe and Mulholland.

Moved by Miss Cunningham: That the minutes of the special meeting of 1996 11 28 be approved. **CARRIED**

ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

"Growing-Up" Video Series and Other Issues - Report from Senior Officials

Miss Bond presented the Report.

Members in favour of the recommendation in the report noted that:

- the nature of video should be clearly stated in the letter to parents.
- for success in this type of program, parents must be involved.
- this video series is one of many teaching tools available to teachers.
- the recommendations in the report allow for a good compromise for concerned parents.
- they are confident in the school system and the teachers and parents of Hamilton.
- the Policy Review Committee would be updating current Board policy.
- curriculum guidelines are set by the Ministry of Education, not the Hamilton Board of Education.
- the recommendations address the diversities within our city.

Members opposed offered:

- that scenes in the "Growing-Up" Video Series would be considered an 'R' rating by the Censor Board, which would restrict their use in our schools.
- the difficulties in communicating information to our ESL parents.
- the reference to abstinence was too infrequent in the video series.
- the video stirs the imagination of children, leading to the possibility of acting out and experimenting in this area.
- the contents of the video is for adults not children.
- we should be concentrating on abstinence which would address many other issues relating to the subject area. e.g. S.T.D.'s.

In responding to questions, Miss Bond indicated that:

- Communication links with ESL parents are being addressed currently by principals with a large ESL component in their school.
- Principals should make decisions on resources used by staff and the distribution of subject-related materials to students and parents within the context of their own community.

- This video resource includes a resource booklet for teachers and parents and the video series is not the only resource available.
- Principals would be responsible to see that all parents are contacted regarding use of this video series.
- Abstinence is addressed in the curriculum. If suggestions are not accepted, alternatives are offered.

Ms. Orban asked if a third bullet could be added relating to the abstinence program as part of the sexual education program. She felt this would balance the recommendations.

Moved by Ms. Orban: That the Hamilton Board of Education support an abstinence program and that it be a part of the Sexual Health Education Program.

The Chairman ruled that this is already part of the Board's regular curriculum; therefore, the motion is it out of order.

Ms. Orban challenged the Chair's ruling and the challenge was Lost.

Moved by Ms. Cunningham: That the Report from the Officials regarding the "Growing-Up" Video Series and Other Issues (in response to the presentations by Jim Enos and Planned Parenthood regarding Sex Education Materials) be received for information and the following recommendations approved:

(a) That the Board support the following decision of the Central Review Committee (1996 10 30) regarding the "Growing Up" video series with the additional provision: that the presentation of the video "Head Full of Questions" to students not be initiated until Grade 8:

"That the use of the video "Head Full of Questions" in the "Growing-Up" video series be restricted with the following stipulations:

1. parents must be notified by letter prior to the showing of the video;
2. parents must be given the opportunity to pre-view the video and to choose if they wish their child to participate in the viewing of the video.

That the use of "Changes" and Especially You" in the "Growing-Up" series remain unchanged."

(b) That the Wentworth County Board of Education policy on Human Sexuality Videos be referred to the Policy Review Committee for review and consideration.

At Mrs. Johnstone's request, the motion was put to a recorded vote and was **CARRIED**. Those in favour: Trustees Bishop, Johnston, MacDonald, Rogers, Wall, Stewart, Cunningham; those opposed: Trustees Johnstone and Orban.

The meeting then adjourned.

Read and confirmed

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CHAIRMAN

dm

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2. Additions to the Minutes of 1996 12 05 regarding the Presentations - China Trip 1

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1. Adult and Continuing Education 1996 Annual Report 1

MINUTES OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE
1997 04 03

Present: Trustees Stewart (Chairman), Bishop, Johnstone, Mulholland, Patenaude, Wall and Cunningham.

Also Present Trustees Gage, Hill, Johnston, MacDonald, Orban and Rogers.

Officials Present: M. Matier (Interim Director of Education and Secretary), M. Quinn (Superintendent of Schools), F. Cooke (Interim Superintendent of Schools) and K. Bain (Interim Assistant Superintendent of Schools).

Mr. Stewart called the meeting to order, noting regrets for not attending were received from Trustees Desmarais, Korz and Lowe.

GENERAL

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:
Report re The Introduction of a Pilot Course in Education About Religion in Elementary Schools

In presenting the Report, Dr. Cooke highlighted that the results of the feasibility study do not indicate sufficient interest at this time to pilot a course in Education About Religion.

The members commended the excellent Report and the efforts of all those involved in this undertaking. Dr. Cooke agreed to express the Board's thanks and appreciation, via Profs, to all staff who responded to the survey.

Moved by Dr. Johnston:

That the Report re The Introduction of a Pilot Course in Education About Religion in Elementary Schools be received for information and the following recommendation approved:

a) That no further action be taken at this time to implement a course in Education About Religion in elementary schools.

CARRIED

Additions to the Minutes of 1996 12 05 regarding the Presentations - China Trip

Moved by Mr. Mulholland:

That the notes and summary of information regarding the educational trip to China, as presented to the Program Committee at the 1997 12 05 meeting, be received for information and filed with the minutes.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:
Adult and Continuing Education 1996 Annual Report

Dr. Cooke provided an overview and then called on the presenters: Messrs. D. McIsaac, Principal - Adult and Continuing Education, and J. McKnight, Head of Mathematics Department (Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School).

Using an overhead, the salient details of the Report were presented to the members.

Moved by Ms. Patenaude:

That the Adult and Continuing Education 1996 Annual Report be received for information.

The members provided the following suggestions for review and consideration:

- explore the needs of the community and market the Adult and Continuing Education program competitively
- develop community partnerships and linkages; incorporate this area with the Board's Revenue Generation initiatives
- raise the issue on the use of site (Jackson Square location) relative to Jackson High with City Hall

The motion was put to a vote and was **CARRIED**.

On behalf of the members, Mr. Stewart thanked the presenters.

The meeting then adjourned.

Read and confirmed,

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CHAIRMAN

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2. Report regarding the Student Services Model 1

MINUTES OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE
1997 05 01

Present: Trustees Stewart (Chairman), Bishop, Mulholland, Wall and Cunningham.

Not Present: Trustees Johnstone and Patenaude.

Also Present Trustees Hicks, Hill, Johnston, Orban and Rogers.

Officials Present: M. Matier (Interim Director of Education and Secretary), E. Bond (Superintendent of Program) and F. Cooke (Interim Superintendent of Schools).

Mr. Stewart called the meeting to order, noting regrets for not attending were received from Trustees Johnstone and Patenaude.

Moved by Mr. Mulholland:

That the minutes of the regular meeting of 1997 02 06 be approved. **CARRIED**

ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY

NEW BUSINESS:

Request for a Report re Option Courses for Secondary - requested by Trustee Orban

Ms. Orban, referencing information provided on printouts regarding option courses in secondary schools, expressed concern about the large number (780) of courses offered to secondary school students.

Moved by Ms. Orban:

That a report be presented on the number of course options in all secondary schools with a view to eliminating some of the courses.

At the Chairman's request, Ms. Orban stated she wanted to know the process used to decide which of the courses listed were actually offered, what happens when a course a student was interested in is cancelled. Ms. Orban clarified that a school-by-school analysis is being requested.

During discussion of the motion, several members suggested that:

- the process by which new courses are approved for offering and the range of subjects offered in the various schools should be indicated
- the intent of the motion is to eliminate courses
- with the pending secondary school reform, the value of the report is in question
- this information already exists
- the trustees with concerns in this area meet with the Superintendent to clarify their concerns; if further information is required, a similar motion could be made at the next meeting of this Committee

The motion was put to a vote and was **LOST**.

Report regarding the Student Services Model

Miss Bond introduced the report and the presenter, Stella Green-Gibson, Project Team Leader, Student Services and Community Linkage.

Ms. Gibson introduced her resource team of: Robin Magill, Briarwood/.5 Consultant, Leanne Yarwood, Principal, Sir Allan MacNab, Stephanie King, Head of Student Services, Sir Allan MacNab, D. Cihocki, Head of Student Services, Scott Park, and Logan Baird, Learning Resource, Scott Park.

Ms. Gibson presented trustees with an overview of the Student Services Model and explained the information contained in the report:

- this model supports the team approach
- it accesses community support personnel not currently available in-school
- Parent Councils, Student Councils and individuals have been informally polled regarding this model
- each school will modify their model to address the needs of their students
- to generalize this model to all schools is not possible
- the model should be carefully monitored and the focus may change yearly
- it deals with staff as well as student needs
- informal evaluations have been completed; however, a formal evaluation may be difficult as what is evaluated in one school may be different in another school
- what succeeds at the junior level may not succeed at the senior level

Moved by Dr. Johnston:

That the Report regarding the Student Services Model be received for information and the following recommendation approved:

a) That the Program Committee support the Student Services Model and that the report be referred to the Salary Committee for negotiations.

Expressing concern that the referral to the Salary Committee was out of order, Mr. Mulholland offered it should be referred to the Operations and Finance Committee for a costing.

When Mr. Stewart noted that the costing was obvious (three Assistant Heads at a responsibility allowance of $2,000 each = $6,000 for implementation), Mr. Mulholland pointed out that phase 1 is implementation in the secondary schools, phase 2 is grades 7, 8 and 9 and phase 3 is down to grade 1.

Dr. Johnston accepted Mr. Mulholland's suggestion as a friendly amendment and the following motion was put to a vote and was **CARRIED**:

That the Report regarding the Student Services Model be received for information and the following motion approved:

a) That the Report regarding program evaluation be adopted by the Program Committee and that it go to the Operations and Finance Committee for a full costing.

The meeting then adjourned.

Read and confirmed,

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CHAIRMAN

dm

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ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY

NEW BUSINESS:

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2. Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee 6

MINUTES OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE
1997 06 05

Present: Trustees Stewart (Chairman), Bishop, Johnstone, Mulholland, Patenaude, Wall and Cunningham.

Also Present: Trustees Hicks, Hill, Johnston and Orban.

Officials Present: P. Gillie (Secretary Pro Tem and Superintendent - Administrative and Operational Services), E. Bond (Superintendent of Program) and J. Tomlinson (Interim Assistant Superintendent of Program).

Mr. Stewart called the meeting to order, noting regrets for not being able to attend were received from Mr. Matier (Interim Director of Education and Secretary) and Trustees MacDonald and Rogers.

It was agreed that Pat Gillie be Secretary Pro Term.

Moved by Mrs. Johnstone: That the minutes of the regular meetings of 1997 03 06 and 1997 04 03 be approved. **CARRIED**

GENERAL

Moved by Mr. Mulholland: That under New Business, Item 1 be moved to the first item on the agenda. **CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS

Demonstration and Presentation of the (Internet) Home Page for the Hamilton Board

Pat Gillie introduced Rob McCann (Systems Programmer) who took the members through the history of communication, the benefits of this type of communication. Trustees were also given a view of the Hamilton Board's Web Page (address is www.hboe.on.ca) and the various links within the site, along with information about a Web Page Contest through the Hamilton Spectator.

During discussion, the following factors were noted:

- Board policies will be captured on the web site
- Principals are accountable for their school's home page
- the content is very important because it is showing the Hamilton Board to the world.
- over the next year, we will learn what can/should be posted on the web site
- moving at 'turtle pace' will assist us in managing this
- the Public Relations Officer is already dealing with the issue of managing the information contained on the home page(s).

Moved by Mrs. Bishop:

That the Demonstration and Presentation of the (Internet) Home Page for the Hamilton Board be received for information. **CARRIED**

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Second Annual Report on Issues Facing Female Athletes in Hamilton High Schools

Miss Bond introduced the presenter, Stella Gibson, Project Team Leader for Student Services and Community Linkage. Ms. Gibson took the trustees through the report and asked for questions to clarify information contained in the report.

During the discussion, the following issues were noted:

- this area of concern is continuing to be addressed and some improvement has been noted
- co-educational physical education has increased at the middle school level
- the report does not reflect the ratio of females and a report reflecting the total number of females participating would give a truer picture.
- if physical education were mandatory, the numbers in this report would likely improve
- each school has a body of athletes which tend to make up the school teams
- each school is individually responsible for the co-curricular activities.
- some Board decisions have resulted in the elimination of some co-curricular activities
- students are transferring to the separate school system for athletic reasons and the Board must address this issue

It was agreed that identification of the schools in future reports is not required.

Moved by Mrs. Hill:

That the Second Annual Report (1997 06 05): Issues Facing Female Athletes in Hamilton High Schools be received for information. **CARRIED**.

Following some discussion regarding the recognition of those who coach in our schools, it was moved by Mrs. Bishop: That the Officials present a report on the feasibility of an event recognize coaches in our elementary and secondary schools, both staff and volunteers. **CARRIED**.

Implementation of "The Common Curriculum - Grades 1-9" Status Report

Ms. Bond presented an update on information being released by the Ministry of Education and Training on outcomes-based education indicating that the Common Curriculum concept will remain and become more detailed. Ms. Bond then introduced Robert Chapman, Project Team Leader, Assessment, Evaluation and Report, who presented further update on Common Curriculum and reviewed the initiatives that have taken place since the last report. He then clarified the recommendations for trustees.

In responding to a question, Ms. Bond indicated that:

- there is a need for consistency in reporting student progress
- parents have difficulty when schools have different report cards
- consistency was a top priority two years ago when the issue of report cards was addressed
- all boards will eventually have the same report card

Mr. Chapman clarified the following for trustees:

- the coded comment section of the program is a frame of reference only and most teachers accessing the software do not use this part of the program
- teachers will maintain the personal touch in comments about students
- teachers will be given another year to become familiar with this software program

- however, it is expected that a large percentage of teachers will be using the program this fall
- in-service will be available to staff as required

Moved by Mr. Mulholland:

That the status report on the implementation of the Common Curriculum be received for information and the following recommendations approved:

(a) Recommendation re: 1997-98 Progress Reports (Grades 1-8). If the Ministry of Education and Training mandates, recommends or makes available a variety of province-wide reports, the Hamilton Board of Education shall adopt for all schools the alternative that allows the inclusion of "Reporting Statements" or "Strands" at each grade level. If there is no province-wide report available, the current Hamilton outcome-based report be expanded to include "Reporting Statements" for all areas of study for grades 1-8 and be used in all schools.

(b) Recommendation re: Reporting Schedule for 1997-98 (Grades 1-8). That the following reporting schedule be used in all schools:

November: Interim anecdotal report sent to all parents indicating the student's strengths, weaknesses and action plans to address areas of concern.

January: Formal anecdotal report sent to all parents of students who are continuing to have difficulty meeting grade level expectations.

June: Formal outcome-based report to all parents.

(c) Recommendation re: Implementation of the Elementary Student Achievement Profile. That the ESAP software be available to all schools immediately, in-service programs and services be continued and all schools be encouraged to use ESAP to track student performance on all learning outcomes as soon as possible. ESAP shall be used in all elementary schools to produce all grades 1-8 student progress reports by January 1999. **CARRIED**

Implementation Status of Recommendations 1, 2, 5 and 7 of the 1993 08 26 Retention Action Team Report

Moved by Dr. Johnston:

That the Report on the Implementation Status of Recommendations 1, 2, 5 and 7 of the 1993 08 26 Retention Action Team Report be deferred to the September, 1997 meeting of the Program Committee. **CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS:

Report re Textbook and Learning Material Approval as per Circular 14

Moved by Mrs. Bishop:

That the names of the texts and learning materials as listed be approved for use in elementary and secondary schools and be added to the existing list of texts and learning materials previously approved by the Board of Education for the City of Hamilton. **CARRIED**

Mr. Stewart asked for clarification about the cost of a book and Prentice Hall prior to the June meeting of the Board.

Annual Report on the Environmental Policy

Ms. Gillie presented the report on the activities/events that have taken place over the last year. Opportunities to partner with other groups with concerns similar to the Board's are being considered. Ms. Gibson gave the highlights of the report and answered questions for trustees.

An information sheet (see attached) on Sci-Phy Quest '97 camp was distributed to members and clarification on a number of points were provided:

- co-op students are on the team and are being using part of the time to co-ordinate the camp
- camp fee is $50.00 per student
- schools nominating candidates are asked to find sponsors for the students to subsidize the fee
- figures based on one week: 11 students enrolled with the provision for 20
- the hope is to run 2 one-week sessions
- sponsorships are being investigated to increase student participation
- parent volunteers will be used
- concerns regarding insurance coverage have been addressed
- the camp has been advertised through elementary schools and the Home & School Association.
- the intent of this report is to raise the level of awareness of activities occurring at these centres

In response to members' concerns that this initiative was not Board-approved, Ms. Gillie indicated that it was felt to be under the auspices the environmental policy and was being included for information in the annual report to the Program Committee as one of the initiatives.

It was clarified that Section 4. (viii) under Background in the report was only speaking to a future consideration of increasing the Site Administrator at Crook's Hollow Centre to a 12 month assignment.

Responding to a question regarding the reference to the two-day a week volunteer services from a former staff member (Section 4. (v) Background), Ms. Green indicated that she could not outline the specifics of the volunteer activity. She noted that the brochure outlines the programs available.

Moved by Mrs. Bishop:

That the Annual Report on the Environmental Policy be received for information.

While it was clarified that Section 4 (Background) was a report on past activities, the members requested that each point in this section be voted on separately.

4. (a) The environment thrusts this past year through the leadership of the Team Leader of Student Services and Community Linkage have been:

i) To develop the Watershed Interpretive Centre (W.I.C.) at Elizabeth Bagshaw and to partner with appropriate other agencies. This has been a priority. The Centre has been operative and in its initial stages of development since October 1996. It has been available to schools for approximately two days per week (Appendix 1). **CARRIED**

[Note: The following sentence in i) was deleted prior to voting: "This Centre is unique and it is recommended that Trustees give consideration to the staffing of the same."]

ii) Ongoing partnership with the Bay Area Restoration Council (B.A.R.C.) has resulted in the concept of developing a "Mini H.H.R.A.P." (Hamilton Harbour Remedial Action Plan) called "Watershed Works". This is partially complete and is intended to be an incentive program for schools to become involved with local programs which emphasize sustainable development. **CARRIED**

iii) Discussions are in the initial stages with the Children's Groundwater Institute and sponsors (Appendix 2). Their mandate is to raise awareness around water conservation. They undertake the organization of Water Festivals for various Boards of Education. **CARRIED**

iv) Discussions are in the initial stages with Destination Conservation and sponsors as part of the partnership with Tescor Energy Services (Appendix 3). The emphasis being placed on the conservation of water, energy and waste reduction. **CARRIED**

v) To facilitate school access to the outdoor education facilities adjacent to G. R. Allan School, Dave Brown has volunteered at least two days per week since the Fall of 1996. **CARRIED**

vi) To liaise with local outdoor education/environment education service providers so that our students and schools have the chance to purchase the opportunity to expand their experiential education options. (Appendix 4). **CARRIED**

vii) To oversee the development of a unique summer camp, "Sci-Phy Quest" (Appendix 5). This camp will be offered at the Watershed Interpretive Centre and G. R. Allan School in weekly sessions, up to a maximum of 6 sessions. Schools will be invited to nominate up to 2 worthy students from Grade 4, 5 or 6, and to help procure sponsorship for these candidates. Community Service Clubs will also be approached to sponsor the project. This will, hopefully, become an annual event which may also serve to assist students meet the required learning outcomes indifferent subject areas. **CARRIED**

viii) To liaise with the Site Administrator at Crook's Hollow Centre in order to offer a variety of environment/outdoor educational options (Appendix 6). This Site Administrator position, thanks to Trustees, was made a permanent 10 month O.C.T.U. appointment as of February, 1997.
CARRIED

[Note: The following sentence in viii) was deleted prior to voting: "It is now recommended that consideration be given to making this position a 12 month assignment. The increased cost would be the equivalent of two months salary (Grade 7)."]

ix) To report to the Bay Area Restoration Council (B.A.R.C.) Monitoring Committee, as a stakeholder of the H.H.R.A.P., and to contribute to "Toward Safe Harbours" 1996 Implementation Update. **CARRIED**

x) To provide the opportunity for students/schools to fund raise through participation in the 7th Annual Walk for the Environment, which is sponsored by The Bay Area Restoration Council. **CARRIED**

The motion, as amended, was put to a vote and was **CARRIED**.

Moved by Mrs. Bishop:

That the Sci-Phy Quest '97 Camp be approved as a pilot, at no further cost to the Board beyond the proposed cost of the co-op student of $312.50 per week, and that an evaluation be brought back to the Program Committee by October, 1997. **CARRIED**

ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY

NEW BUSINESS:

Report re System Summary of Grades 5 and 8 Students' Results on the Canadian Achievement Tests (Second Edition), 1996-97

Ms. Bond presented an overview of the information the report contained and introduced Connie Kidd, Program Research Analyst, Assessment, Evaluation and Report, who presented the report.

Ms. Kidd complimented teachers and principals on the efficient and attentive manner in relationship to this test.

During discussion, the following factors were noted:

- information on grade 8 students will be shared with the secondary schools
- a media release will be produced in the near future

Ms. Bond agreed to acknowledge principals and staff for their involvement in the test and the preparation of the report.

Moved by Mrs. Johnstone:

That the System Summary of Grade 5 and 8 Students' Results of the Canadian Achievement Tests (Second Edition), 1996-97 be received for information. **CARRIED**

Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee

Ms. Bond briefly explain the contents of the report to members and asked for questions from the floor.

Clarification was given to members that the report reflects a redeployment of staff, not an increase in staff except in the area of the 10 additional Educational Assistants.

Moved by Mrs. Bishop:

That the following Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee be approved:

1. That the 14th Annual Review of Provision of Special Education Programs and Services as amended, be approved for submission to the Minister of Education and Training.

2. That recognition of the continuum and range of placements, which include special classes, be included in future years in the Annual Review of the Provision of Special Education Programs and Services.

CARRIED

The meeting then adjourned.

Read and confirm,

_____

CHAIRMAN

dm

Att.

SCI-PHY QUEST '97

This camp is being offered, as a pilot, in partnership with various community agencies.
The lead partner is the Bay Area Restoration Council (BARC).

Revenues will come from the following sources:

Program Services Department - deployment of the Co-op student as the Camp Co-ordinator

Nature Walkathon (B.A.R.C.) - funds raised from the '96 event

Bay Area Restoration Council - allotment of a summer student to assist the Camp Co-ordinator

Student fees

Community Service Groups - sponsorship donations

Expenditures will be:

Camp Co-ordinator

Assistant Co-ordinator

Honoraria for two high school student volunteers

Bus Transportation

Food / Refreshments

Materials / Equipment

Miscellaneous

The following represents a weekly analysis of the financial figures:

Revenues:

Program Services	$312.50
Nature Walkathon	62.50
BARC	245.50
Student fees (11)	550.50
Community Agencies	416.00

Total revenue/wk: $1,587.00

Expenditures:

Camp Coordinator	312.50
Camp Coordinator	62.50
Assistant	245.50
Transportation	150.00
Honoraria	200.00
Food/Refreshments	250.50
Materials/Equpiment	200.00
Miscellaneous	160.00

Tot. expenditures: $1,581.00

Actual cost per student $143.72

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BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

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NEW BUSINESS:

1. Verbal Update regarding the New Ontario Curriculum 2

MINUTES OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE
1997 09 04

Present: Trustees Stewart (Chairman), Bishop, Johnstone, Mulholland, Wall and Cunningham.

Not Present: Trustee Patenaude.

Also Present: Trustees Darby, Desmarais, Hill, Johnston, MacDonald, Orban, Paquin and Rogers.

Officials Present: M. Matier (Interim Director of Education and Secretary), E. Bond (Superintendent of Program), M. Quinn (Superintendent of Schools), F. Cooke (Interim Superintendent of Schools), S. Thompson (Assistant Superintendent of Schools), K. Bain (Interim Assistant Superintendent of Schools) and J. Tomlinson (Interim Assistant Superintendent of Program).

Mr. Stewart called the meeting to order, noting regrets for not attending were received from Trustees Patenaude and Lowe.

GENERAL

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:
Implementation Status of Recommendations 1, 2, 5 and 7 of the Retention Committee Report
Dr. Cooke presented the Report and then responded to the members' questions.

Moved by Miss Cunningham:

That the Report on the Implementation Status of Recommendations 1, 2, 5 and 7 of the Retention Committee Report be received for information.

Several members expressed their appreciation for the in-depth information contained in the Report.

Ms. Orban stressed the importance of continually looking at student retention and encouraged the officials and staff to find ways to improve the tracking of students entering/leaving the school system.

Mrs. Wall remarked that the information in the Report could be an excellent tool for both short and long term program planning. She was pleased the information reflects the positive things this Board has been doing and suggested that these initiatives could be linked with Guidance and Student Services.

Perceiving that student retention will continue to be a major issue, it was

Moved in amendment by Mrs. Bishop:

That a further report on the implementation of these recommendations be brought to the Board by next year.

When the Chairman suggested this be accepted as a friendly amendment, Miss Cunningham expressed her concern, reminding the members that a different board structure will be in place by next year.

The amendment was put to a vote and was **CARRIED**.

The motion, as amended, was put to a vote and was **CARRIED**.

ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

System and School Reports of Grade 5 and Grade 8 Students' Results on the Canadian Achievement Tests (Second Edition), 1996-97

Miss Bond provided an overview of the Report. Emphasizing that each school is unique in terms of programming, Miss Bond reminded that, in looking at the data, no comparison between schools should be assumed. She then called on Ms. C. Kidd, Program Research Analyst - Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting, who reviewed the details of the Report.

Moved by Ms. Orban:

That the System and School Reports of Grade 5 and Grade 8 Students' Results on the Canadian Achievement Tests (Second Edition), 1996-97 be received for information.

The members were advised that an analysis of this type of testing, in relation to the New Ontario Curriculum, will be forthcoming.

The motion was put to a vote and was **CARRIED**.

NEW BUSINESS:

Verbal Update regarding the New Ontario Curriculum

At the point, Mrs. Bishop requested Miss Bond provide the trustees with information regarding this new initiative from the Ministry of Education and Training.

Mr. Stewart requested and obtained the two-thirds majority vote to consider this item.

Miss Bond related the series of activities which facilitated the introduction of the new document into the school system, noting the in-service/training sessions for the teachers and the development of a fact sheet for principals. She noted that further in-service sessions will be focused on the individual needs of each school and the classroom teacher.

Miss Bond alluded to a forthcoming information meeting regarding the new Ontario Curriculum scheduled for **Monday, 1997 10 06 in the Main Auditorium** [further details will follow]. This meeting is open to trustees, Home and School and School Councils.

In response to the members' request, Miss Bond agreed to provide written information about the implementation of the new Ontario Curriculum, Grades 1-8.

It was agreed:

That the verbal Update regarding the new Ontario Curriculum be received for information.

The meeting then adjourned.

Read and confirmed,

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CHAIRMAN

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NEW BUSINESS:

1. Report of the Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils Committee..... 2

MINUTES OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE
1997 10 02

Present: Trustees Stewart (Chairman), Bishop, Patenaude, Wall and Cunningham.

Not Present: Trustees Johnstone and Mulholland.

Also Present: Trustees Darby, Hicks, Johnston, MacDonald, Orban and Rogers.

Officials Present: M. Matier (Interim Director of Education and Secretary), E. Bond (Superintendent of Program), P. Gillie (Superintendent - Administrative and Operational Services) and J. Tomlinson (Interim Assistant Superintendent of Program).

Mr. Stewart called the meeting to order, noting regrets for not attending were received from Trustees Johnstone, Mulholland, and Lowe. He then called for confirmation of the minutes.

Mrs. Bishop asked that the minutes of the 1997 09 04 be amended to include the following relative to the discussion on *Implementation Status of Recommendations 1,2,5 and 7 of the Retention Committee Report* which she believed would assist presenters of similar reports in the future:

- the members asked that future reports provide some comparisons to previous years
- there was some discussion relating to the need of students to bond
- the report was presented in such a way that it could not be determined whether the comments provided were from just one school or from a variety of schools

Mrs. Bishop added that she hoped future reports would not be presented in the same format.

Moved by Dr. Johnston: That the minutes of the regular meetings of 1997 05 01, 1997 06 05 and 1997 09 04, as amended, be approved. **CARRIED**.

GENERAL

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Report re Evaluation of Sci-Phy Quest Summer Day Camp '97

Miss Bond introduced Stella Gibson, Project Team Leader for Student Services and Community Linkage, and Brendan Johnson, the student organizer responsible for the planning and day-to-day responsibilities of the camp, who presented the information contained in the report and answered questions.

Ms. Gibson and Mr. Johnson invited trustees to peruse the information and photographs on display in the Board room.

In responding to questions, Mr. Johnson clarified the following:

- the camp was intended to be offered in six one-week sessions; however, due to enrolment, only two one-week sessions were offered
- one was offered at Glen Road Outdoor Education Centre (G. R. Allan School) and one at the Watershed Interpretive Centre (Elizabeth Bagshaw School)
- approximately 15-20 students attended each camp
- a questionnaire was mailed to each of the participating students' parents
- staff of both schools were most accommodating with needs during the camps
- this year, the camp was offered to students in grades 4-6
- there was good representation of students from across the city, not just students from the surrounding neighbourhood of the camps

- the tremendous efforts of the principals, social workers, teachers, school council and the community in supporting this endeavour were acknowledged
- campers also participated in environmental field trips during their time at camp
- Mr. Johnson approached secondary school guidance personnel to assist in selecting camp volunteers
- there were many gracious responses from community organizations in sponsoring the camp
- the Bay Area Restoration Council was very eager to be involved in the implementation of this camp

During debate the following factors were noted:

- it was very encouraging to have had such an enthusiastic individual presenting a report his evening
- promotion of the camp in schools and community should be done much earlier next year due to the competition in summer camps.
- getting parents involved is important
- camp information needs to be readily accessible
- give some consideration to offering the camp to students in grades 4 to 9
- the camp fee was $50.00; some School Councils sponsored two children
- each sponsor received a personal thank you card and a camp photo from Mr. Johnson
- a donation from Canada Trust will be adjusted because of the difference between the projected and actual participants in the camps
- recognizing that Mr. Johnson worked on the project before and after camp, it was emphasized that is important to factor in such costs of the camp
- the anecdotal comments in the report would have been more meaningful had a copy of the evaluation questionnaire been included in the report
- that consideration be given to contacting other sources for volunteer camp workers in the future

Moved by Dr. Johnston: That the Report re Evaluation of Sci-Phy Quest Summer Day Camp '97 be received for information and that Trustees' support be given to organize Sci-Phy Quest for 1998, as soon as practicable. **CARRIED**.

NEW BUSINESS:

Report of the Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils Committee

Canon. Rogers asked that the staff from S.A.L.E.P. who were present be introduced. Dr. Tomlinson introduced Tim Kay, Social Worker and Warren Trimble, Teacher, who are the two new staff members of the S.A.L.E.P. Centre.

Kathy Hibbins, Project Team Leader, Social & Interpersonal Skills, asked for questions from trustees regarding the information in the report.

Clarification was made on the following:

- students on the waiting list, under the age of 16, are given priority and most gain entry into the program
- students who do not 'buy into' the S.A.L.E.P. program (non-compliance) are removed from the waiting list

Moved by Canon Rogers: That the following Report of the Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils Committee be approved:

That the Annual Report [September 1996-June 1997] of the Supervised Alternative Learning for Excused Pupils (SALEP) program, including the Statistical Report be received for information. **CARRIED**

The meeting then adjourned.

Read and confirmed

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CHAIRMAN

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BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

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NEW BUSINESS:

1. Presentation regarding Academic Challenge 1

MINUTES OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE
1997 12 04

Present: Trustees Stewart (Chairman), Bishop, Johnstone, Mulholland, Patenaude, Wall and Cunningham.

Also Present: Trustees Desmarais, Gage, Johnston, MacDonald, Orban and Rogers.

Officials Present: M. Matier (Interim Director of Education and Secretary), E. Bond (Superintendent of Program), K. Bain (Interim Assistant Superintendent of Schools) and J. Tomlinson (Interim Assistant Superintendent of Program).

Mr. Stewart called the meeting to order, noting regrets for not attending were received from Trustees Hicks, Korz, Lowe and Paquin. He then asked for confirmation of the minutes.

Moved by Mr. Mulholland: That the minutes of the regular meeting of 1997 10 02 be approved. Carried.

GENERAL

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Report re the Feasibility of an Event to Recognize Coaches in the Elementary/Secondary Schools - both Staff and Volunteers

Ms. Bond introduced Ms. Green-Gibson (Project Team Leader - Student Services and Community Linkage) and Mr. Newman (Sports Convenor) who briefly summarized their findings. While middle schools would welcome some form of system recognition, secondary schools thought it would be a duplication of events already held at that level, i.e. recognition days, athletic banquets, etc..

Moved by Mr. Gage: That the Athletic Office prepare a report for the new district school board which outlines possible format options and costing of a Board-wide middle school staff and volunteer coach appreciation event.

It is anticipated that such a report would be available during the budget process.

The motion put to a vote and Carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation regarding Academic Challenge

Mr. Ron Crawford, Teacher/Librarian at Westmount School briefly outlined the history of Academic Challenge before introducing teachers Greg Clark and Peter Queck and seven students from Westmount, Westdale and Sir Allan MacNab Schools, who provided a demonstration of an Academic Challenge program. In closing, Mr. Crawford urged that the board show support for this worthwhile programming by writing a letter to the C.E.O. of Cable 14.

The Chairman remarked on the normal procedure relative to presentations and that a two-thirds majority vote would be required to deal with this issue tonight.

Moved by Miss Cunningham: That this issue be dealt with tonight. **Carried** with the required majority.

Moved by Ms. MacDonald: That the Hamilton Board of Education write a letter of support for Cable 14 to continue televising Academic Challenge as an excellent showcase of some of our most talented students in a well-received program in the Community. It is important that the community be involved in education through a medium that promotes motivation, inspiration and a sense of accomplishment for our students.

A number of trustees voiced their support for the Program and the opportunity it afforded.

While no definite rationale was provided for the cancellation of the program for the upcoming season, Mr. Crawford proffered the main reason may result from a recent CRTC ruling relative to cable community television which impacts on the amount of actual community broadcasting required. The ruling allows a percentage of profits to be paid towards the production of Canadian programming which will mean the studio will be used to produce commercial TV programs. Mr. Crawford added Cable 14 is a co-operative venture funded by local cable firms. In response to questions, he clarified that Cable 14's costs to produce Academic Challenge are negligible, other than the use of their studio.

Stating it was important to clarify the rationale for the cancellation (i.e., funding or otherwise), Miss Cunningham offered that a letter be directed not only to Ms. Striker at Cable 14, but copied to all cable companies that fund Cable 14. She added that a letter should also be sent to Sheila Copps, MP, regarding the impact of CRTC decisions on such programs.

Ms. MacDonald agreed to a friendly amendment in which the second half of her motion would be removed for inclusion as content in the letter, and that the motion be pluralized to allow multiple letters.

Other suggestions included:
- videotaping sessions hosted by schools on a rotating basis with a live audience
- that the letters be followed up by a personal visit, at which time suggestions to raise interest in the program could be raised, i.e., the Director of Education as moderator, or a format that includes senior management, trustees or teachers against students.
- request that at least the final challenge be shown on TV during Education Week.

Noting that other community events are experiencing similar coverage reductions due to changing regulations, Ms. MacDonald strongly suggested the need for corporate sponsors.

The motion, as follows, was put to a vote and **Carried.**

That the Hamilton Board of Education write letters of support to Cable 14, the cable companies that fund Cable 14, and M.P. Sheila Copps to continue televising Academic Challenge as an excellent showcase of some of our most talented students in a well-received program in the Community.

Mr. Stewart thanked Mr. Crawford and the Academic Challenge participants.

Thanks to the Chairman

Moved by Ms. Patenaude: That the Committee extend their thanks to Mr. Stewart for chairing the Program Committee over the past year. **Carried.**

The meeting then adjourned.

Read and confirmed.

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CHAIRMAN

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